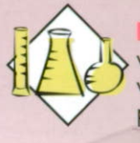
INFORMATION ON WATER FROM THE EPA

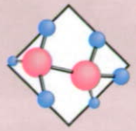
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals (and in some cases, radioactive material) and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of people and animals. Substances that are monitored include:

Microorganisms like viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage, septic systems, agriculture, and wildlife.



Inorganics such as salts and metals, which occur naturally or result from runoff, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining , or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from agriculture, runoff, and residential uses.



Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are industrial and petroleum process by-products which can come from gas stations, runoff, and septic systems

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

WATER SOURCES

Watertown residents receive their water from ground water. We pump water with 31 wells from the North Big Sioux aquifer. The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources completed our Source Water Assessment in 2003. The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources has determined the susceptibility to contamination of the Watertown Public Water Supply is moderate. A copy of the assessment is available by contacting Jeff DeVille at 882-6233.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants found in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Environmental Protection Agency/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Cryptosporidium has not been detected in Watertown's water.

WATER SERVICES

MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

In addition to providing safe, high quality water, we supply the best possible customer service. As part of this effort, we have developed a policy for water service maintenance, repair, and replacement. Portions of our policy are outlined below. Our complete water policy is at this link: http://www.watertownmu.com/page.php?page=9

WATER SERVICE LINES

- The Watertown Municipal Utilities Water Dept. will make all taps to the water main.
- The minimum service size shall be 1" type K copper annealed.
- All hook-up fees must be paid in full before the tap is made.
- The customer is responsible for the service line all the way to the main and shall install and maintain piping, curb stops, valves, and other equipment in an approved manner.
- Water service lines cannot be shared by single or two family unit dwellings. Each dwelling unit must have separate water service lines.

WATER SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT

Lead and leaking galvanized, or plastic lines shall be replaced with type K copper lines. The property owner bears responsibility for replacement expense.

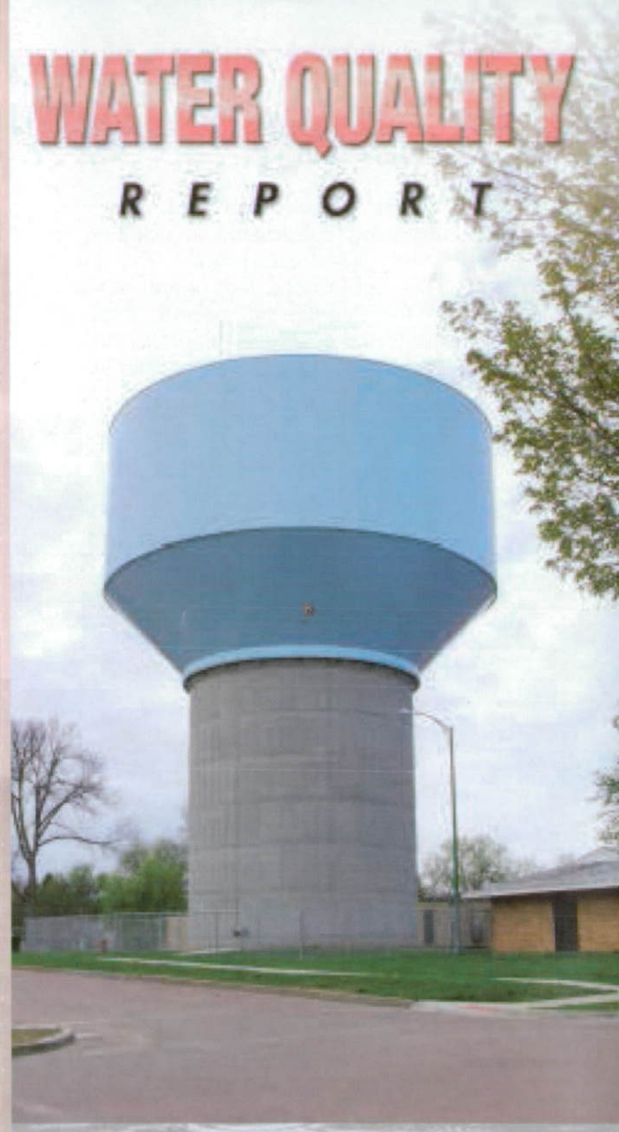
ABANDONED WATER SERVICE LINES

Abandoned water service lines must be excavated and shut off at the water main. Excavation is the responsibility of the property owner or his/her contractor. The Water Department bears the responsibility for closing the corporation tap at the main once exposed.

WATER SERVICE LINES

- The Watertown Municipal Utilities Water Dept. will furnish all water meters up to and including 2" meters.
- Meters must be located where the service enters the home or building and must be accessible for reading and repair.
- Meters must be in a freeze-proof area.

WATER QUALITY REPORT



For additional information about Watertown drinking water contact Jeff DeVille at 882-6233

The public can participate in water issues at the Municipal Utility Board Meeting at noon the last Monday of the month.

2016

WATER MONITORING REPORT SUMMARY:

Watertown water is monitored and tested for about 80 regulated substances in addition to dozens of unregulated substances. The table below lists the substances that were actually detected for this monitoring period. Not all substances are tested each year; the most current test date is listed if the substance was not monitored in 2016. The public can participate in water issues at the Watertown Municipal Utility Board Meeting at noon the last Monday of the month.

WHO DETERMINES THE WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Levels of regulated contaminants are enforced through Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) set by Congress. Food and Drug administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must also provide protection for public health. Under federal law, bottled water is a packaged foodstuff and this allows water bottlers to meet less rigorous testing, treatment, and public notification regulations than community water supplies. Water bottlers are not currently required to actively inform the public about the quality of the water they bottle.

WHY DOES EPA ALLOW ANYTHING IN WATER?

All drinking water sources contain some naturally occurring substances. Water is a very good solvent and it dissolves many things easily upon contact. At low levels, these things are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all substances from drinking water would be extremely expensive and in nearly all cases would not provide any protection to the public health. In fact, removing everything from drinking water would often times result in an inferior product. Many naturally occurring minerals are essential nutrients and may actually improve the taste of your drinking water. According to the EPA, drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by visiting the EPA web site at www.epa.gov/safewater/ or by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINATE TESTING

The Watertown Municipal Utilites periodically tests for chemicals that are not regulated by either the state or EPA. The purpose for the unregulated chemical monitoring is to determine if these chemicals exist in the water supply. EPA uses this occurence information along with health effects studies to determine which chemicals need to be regulated in the future.

SUBSTANCES DETECTED BY WATER MONITORING IN 2016

Regulated Substances Controlled Prior to Distribution-test date listed if prior to 2014

Substance	High Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Barium	0.020		4/30/2012	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	1.5		4/30/2012	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	0.8	.1 - 0.8	3/7/2016	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizers and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids	11.2	4.6 - 50	11/11/2016	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Selenium	0.9		4/30/2012	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total Trihalomethanes	36.5	10.4 - 142	11/11/2016	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Substance	90% Level	Test sites Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0	0	7/22/2015	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	1	0	7/22/2015	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion natural deposits .

2014 Table of Detected Unregulated Contaminants For Watertown Municipal Utilities

Substance	High Level Detected	Units	Date Tested	Range
Chlorate	176.59	ug/L	11/12/2014	221.34 - 176.59
Chromium (total)	0.959	ug/L	11/12/2014	0.303 - 0.959
Strontium	168.58	ug/L	11/12/2014	144.6 - 68.58
Chromium-6	0.889	ug/L	11/12/2014	0.274 - 0.889
Molybdenum	3.238	ug/L	11/12/2014	3.238 - 3.238
Vanadium	2.191	ug/L	11/12/2014	2.717 - 2.191

KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS:

MFL: Million fibers per Liter. MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest allowed level of a substance in drinking water. Set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. Level of substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. AL: Action level. Concentration of the substance which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a watert system must follow. pCi/L: Picocuries per Liter, a measure of radioactivity. Mg/L: Milligrams per Liter. Ugo/L: Micrograms per Liter. TT: Treatment Technique. A required process inended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. PSPM: Positive Sample per Month.

2016 Information on Violations For Watertown Municipal Utilities (EPA ID 0356)

Violation Type	Parameter	Date System Notified	Health Effects Language	Action Taken By Your System
Exceedance of Allowable Contaminant Level	Trihalomethane (THM)	10/17/2016	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.	Corrective action taken by your system: We have since completed the required sampling and/or reporting. We have also successfully made improvements to the distribution system to reduce the levels of Trihalomethane formation.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Running the water while shaving wastes enough water to quench your thirst for a week.
- It takes 39,000 gallons of water to manufacture an automobile.
- It can take 3000 gallons of water per week to keep a 1/4 acre law green.
- 2.3 billion people do not have a clean, safe supply of water.
- Americans spend $5 billion every year on bottled water, enough to provide water infrastructure and safe water to 28 million third-world families who don't currently have it.